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 Long on Agenda
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 Jalalabad
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 streamline communi-
 cations sector
 BSCIC may give loan
 for small computer
 centres
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STOCK MARKET
 DSE Index 776.16 (-0.35%)
 Market capitalisation Tk 42.98 billion
 Turnover in volume 96587
 Turnover in value Tk 14.12 million

Prospectus
 A three-page prospectus
 of National Life Insu-
 rance Company Ltd
 Pages 7, 8, 9

Metropolitan
 Dhaka Day by Day

When it Rains
 Page 3

NEWS BRIEFS
 Sunstroke kills
 2 in Pabna
 PABNA, Apr 23: Two
 porters died of sunstroke
 while they were loading a
 truck in the Atakula Hat in
 Sadar thana today, hospital
 sources said. The dead were
 identified as Astruddin, 55, of
 Belkuchi thana and Asad
 Sheikh, 42, of Raiganj thana of
 Sirajganj district, reports UNB.

**AL calls hartal in
 Savar today**
 SAVAR, Apr 23: Local unit
 of the Awami League has called
 a day-long hartal in Savar thana
 tomorrow protesting the
 killing of Jubo League leader
 Abdur Rashid. Abdur Rashid
 Mian, president of Berulia unit
 Jubo League, was killed by
 some unidentified miscreants
 at a circus at Radio Colony on
 April 21, reports UNB.

**RU reopens
 May 20**
 From RU Correspondent
 RAJSHAHI, Apr 23: The
 Rajshahi University will reopen
 on May 20 after a 96-day of
 closure. The University
 Syndicate took this decision at
 a meeting with the Vice-
 Chancellor Prof Yusuf Ali in the
 chair. The dormitories will
 reopen on May 19. The univer-
 sity was closed since die follow-
 ing a clash between the ac-
 tivists of the Jatiyatabadi
 Chhatra Dal and the Islami
 Chhatra Shibir on February 12
 in which two students were
 killed.

JCS banner burnt
 ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY, Apr
 23: Some students of the
 Islamic University today burnt
 a banner of Jatiya Chhatra
 Samaj (JCS) on the campus. A
 group of students tore and
 burnt the banner which was
 hung on a wall of Faculty
 Building of the varsity to wel-
 come the admission seekers at
 9 am. However, the examina-
 tions were not hampered.

Aid Club meet begins in Paris today

The slowdown in the ongo-
 ing reform process is likely to
 come up for critical review at
 the 3-day Bangladesh Aid Con-
 sultation meeting which begins
 in the French capital today.
 At the annual Paris Aid Club
 meet, the donor community is
 also expected to strongly advo-
 cate accelerating the pace of
 reforms to nudge the Bangla-
 desh economy from macro
 stability towards a high growth
 path, while emphasising
 the need for maintaining
 political stability.
 The Bangladesh delegation,
 on the other hand, is likely to
 highlight the achievements al-
 ready made, particularly under
 an emerging 'democratic
 polity', while seeking contin-
 ued support from the donor
 community for pushing ahead
 the remaining reform agenda.

By S Y Bakht
 As indicated earlier by offi-
 cials, the government would
 seek increased food aid against
 the backdrop of a projected
 shortfall in foodgrain output,
 and also express Bangladesh's
 concern at the declining level
 of aid commitment.
 Despite differences over the
 exact pace of the ongoing re-
 forms, both the World Bank
 and the government earlier
 came up with similar estimates
 about the level of external as-
 sistance that would be re-
 quired by Bangladesh in 1995-
 96 and placed the figure at
 over 1.8 billion US dollars. The
 Aid Club commitment last year
 stood at 2.1 billion dollars.
 Finance Minister M Saifur
 Rahman is leading a 6-member
 government delegation at the
 meet, organised by the World
 Bank. Presided over by Joseph

Wood, Vice President of the
 Washington-based Bank, the
 meeting is expected to be at-
 tended by representatives
 from over two dozen bilateral
 and multilateral aid agencies.
 Discussions at the meeting
 would primarily involve two
 documents: the government-
 prepared 'Memorandum for the
 Bangladesh Aid Group
 Meeting' and the Country
 Economic Memorandum
 (CEM), an annual report card
 compiled by the World Bank
 on the performance of the
 economy and the progress in
 implementing the reform
 agenda agreed at the last Paris
 meet.
 The CEM pointed out that
 although the macroeconomic
 balance was further strength-
 ened during FY94, the oppor-
 tunity cost of borrowing has
 risen sharply.
 See Page 12 Col 1



Awami League president Sheikh Hasina called on visiting Nobel laureate Mother Teresa at the Tejgaon Missionaries of Charity in the city yesterday.
 — Star photo

Sit-in near Speaker's office Opposition may not be allowed to enter JS Bhaban today

The Opposition MPs who
 have planned to stage a sit-in
 in front of the Speaker's office
 at 3 pm today may not be al-
 lowed to enter the Sangsad
 Bhaban when Parliament goes
 into its 19th session on the
 day, police and parliament
 sources said.
 "They (opposition MPs)
 would not be allowed to enter
 the area. So far this is the
 decision," a senior police official
 told The Daily Star.
 "The authorities have taken
 the measures to maintain
 peace. They announced agita-
 tion programmes inside the
 Bhaban instead of attending
 the session that begins at
 4pm," the official said request-
 ing anonymity.
 A Parliament source said
 that the decision was taken at
 a meeting with the Deputy
 Commissioner (West) of the
 DMP and senior officials of the
 Parliament Secretariat yester-
 day. An ASP of the DMP was
 also present at the meeting
 held at the Sangsad Bhaban
 around 2 pm.
 Police officials, however,
 failed to say how the MPs,
 whose resignations were not
 accepted, would be barred

from entering the area, when
 the House goes into session.
 Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali
 told The Daily Star that he had
 no knowledge about such a
 decision.
 "They are still MPs and
 they have been invited to at-
 tend the session. So how could
 they be prevented from enter-
 ing the House," he said over
 telephone.
 "My responsibility is to
 chair the session and it is the
 duty of the police to maintain
 law and order," the Speaker
 said.
 He said, "A meeting might
 take place between police and
 Parliament officials but it
 should not necessarily come to
 my knowledge."
 In reply to a question Raz-
 zak Ali said, "They are hono-
 rable members of Parli-
 ament and I think they are
 very responsible. I hope they
 will show their responsibility."
 A Parliament source said,
 the authorities apprehended
 that the sit-in might create
 disorder inside the House,
 hampering the session when it
 begins.
 The MPs belonging to the
 See Page 12 Col 7

JS session begins today

By Staff Correspondent
 The 19th session of the
 fifth Parliament begins today at
 4 pm with the Business Advi-
 sory Committee deciding that
 the session would continue for
 at least four days.
 Speaker Shaikh Razzak Ali
 chaired the committee meet-
 ing attended by Deputy
 Speaker Humayun Khan Panni,
 Chief Whip Khandaker Delwar
 Hossain, Whip Mahbubul Alam
 Taraj and Irrigation Minister
 Majidul Huq represented the
 Prime Minister, meeting
 sources said.
 "Our initial decision is that
 the session would continue for
 four days but it might continue
 further. It depends on cir-
 cumstances," a member of the
 Advisory Committee said.
 On the opening day today,
 two ordinances — the Supreme
 Court Judges (remuneration
 and allowances) Ordinance,
 1995 and Judicial Administra-
 tion Training Institute Ord-
 nance, 1995 — are to be placed
 before the House.
 Besides, question-answer
 session, the Public Service
 Commission Report, 1994
 would also be placed in the
 House. Several other bills and
 ordinances may also be tabled
 in this session; the committee
 source further said.
 See Page 12 Col 8

'Consensus must for economic development'

By Staff Correspondent
 The Prime Minister's Spe-
 cial Envoy M Morshed Khan
 yesterday called for a consen-
 sus among politicians to over-
 come the current impasse
 which, he said, was the 'main
 impediment' to the develop-
 ment of the country.
 He said negative politics
 and disorganised bureaucracy
 are barriers to the emergence
 of Bangladesh as an 'Asian
 Tiger'.
 "Politicians are respectable
 people. The Leader of the Op-
 See Page 12 Col 6

SAARC nations must show tolerance for peace: Hasina

Awami League president
 Sheikh Hasina yesterday em-
 phasised that bilateral disputes
 among the SAARC countries
 should be resolved through
 discussion with equal share,
 care and honour, reports UNB.
 "Every country of the
 SAARC region must play a role
 of tolerance, compassion and
 cooperation to achieve peace
 in regional and global context
 with the equal human funda-
 mental rights," she said.
 The AL chief was speaking
 as chief guest at a function of
 the South Asian Association for
 the Regional Cooperation of
 Architects (SAARCH), orga-
 nised by the Institute of Archi-
 tects' Bangladesh (IAB) at the
 Engineering University auditor-
 ium yesterday evening.
 In this open market econ-
 omy and democratic time of
 today, every country of the
 SAARC region must play a role
 of tolerance, compassion and
 cooperation, she said. "Other-
 wise, the very philosophy of
 the SAARC spirit will be at
 stake."
 Hasina said her party is
 trying to establish democracy
 which could be practised
 without interference, power and
 ill motivation and which would
 help bring freedom, justice,
 peace and harmony.
 She said the colonial pow-
 ers deliberately destroyed the
 glorious tradition of our cul-
 ture, literature and architec-
 ture.
 The AL chief said the inde-
 pendence was achieved after a
 long struggle of the common
 people under the leadership of
 architect of the nation Banga-
 bandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rah-
 man.
 But, she lamented that the
 heroic struggle, history and
 culture were being distorted in
 a planned way, and called upon
 See Page 12 Col 8

2 MOUs for power
 generation in
 private sector
 Two memorandums of un-
 derstanding (MOU) were
 signed yesterday between
 Bangladesh government and
 two companies of Singapore
 for power generation in the
 private sector, reports BSS.
 With these two MOUs, the
 country has signed so far eight
 agreements for power genera-
 tion in the private sector.
 The two Singaporean firms
 are AES Transpower Private
 Ltd and Vander Hoast Limited.
 These firms will invest 400
 million dollar to generate 460
 megawatt power.
 See Page 12 Col 4

PM will raise water issue with Rao in Delhi

By Staff Correspondent
 Foreign Secretary Farooq
 Sobhan yesterday said that
 India would have to address
 the water-sharing problem
 immediately.
 "New Delhi must do some-
 thing on a priority basis on the
 subject of water, we hope they
 would in their own interest
 and in a spirit of neighbour-
 hood resolve this most serious
 outstanding matter."
 Addressing a press briefing
 at the conference room of the
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
 Farooq Sobhan replied to a
 wide-range of questions re-
 lated to the water issue, bilat-
 eral problems, the forthcom-
 ing SAARC summit and the
 Islamabad visit of the Prime
 Minister.
 The Foreign Secretary said

that the water issue would de-
 finitely be raised by our Prime
 Minister during bilateral
 discussions when she is in India
 for attending the SAARC sum-
 mit. He explained that water
 scarcity was the most serious
 issue confronting the country
 and it had already been raised
 by the Prime Minister with
 visiting dignitaries and also
 with foreign leaders during her
 trips abroad.
 Responding to questions he
 said, "We are working towards
 getting a concrete response on
 the water issue. It depends on
 the Indian government."
 The Foreign Secretary,
 however, stressed that Dhaka
 had always made it clear to
 New Delhi that it was a bilat-
 eral issue.
 See Page 12 Col 1

Lalmatia double murders: Romena formally charged

By Court Correspondent
 Romena Begum Nomi, the
 housemaid accused of commit-
 ting the sensational double
 murders in Lalmatia, was for-
 mally arraigned yesterday.
 The additional District and
 Sessions Judge of Dhaka, Abdul
 Majid, framed the charges un-
 der Section 302 of the
 Bangladesh Penal Code.
 Romena Begum, who was
 produced in the court under
 heavy police guard, pleaded
 not guilty when Assistant Public
 Prosecutor (APP) Masud
 Ahmed Talukder read out the
 charges to her.
 Romena, according to the
 prosecution case, killed Mah-
 jabeen Chowdhury Shoma, a
 medical student, at the vic-
 See Page 12 Col 2

Two more testify in Zahir murder case

By Court Correspondent
 Two more witnesses gave
 evidence in the Humayun Zahir
 murder case, being heard in
 the court of the Additional
 District and Sessions Judge,
 Dhaka.
 Seven out of 43 witnesses
 have so far testified in the case
 relating to the murder of
 noted businessman Humayun
 Zahir at this Dhanmondi resi-
 dence in the city in April
 1993.
 Yasin Miah, owner of the
 Dhanmondi Club canteen, situ-
 ated just opposite Zahir's
 See Page 12 Col 5

Boat Purchase Case Trial of Ershad, Japanese national adjourned

By Staff Correspondent
 The trial of deposed presi-
 dent H M Ershad and a
 Japanese national in the Relief
 Boat Purchase Case was ad-
 journed yesterday following a
 defence prayer.
 Additional District and
 Sessions Judge, Dhaka and
 Special Judge Zinat Ara set
 May 7 as the last date for pro-
 ducing defence witnesses, if
 any.
 Ershad's counsel Yusuf
 Hossain Humayun, who on
 March 30 had named three
 Japanese nationals as defence
 witnesses, yesterday submitted
 a prayer seeking more time to
 produce the witnesses in
 court. He told the court that
 every effort had been made to
 summon the three to Dhaka to
 See Page 12 Col 7

Wage Board for journalists, employees to be formed

A delegation of the
 Bangladesh Federal Union of
 Journalists (BFUJ) and Dhaka
 Union of Journalists (DUJ) yester-
 day called on Information and
 Commerce Minister M
 Shamsul Islam at the secre-
 tariat and discussed the pre-
 vailing situation in the news-
 paper industry, reports BSS.
 The BFUJ and DUJ leaders
 demanded immediate declara-
 tion of the formation of the 5th
 Newspaper Journalists and
 Employees' Wage Board by the
 government.
 The Information Minister
 agreed in principle, on the
 formation of the 5th News-
 paper Journalists and Employees'
 Wage Board and directed the
 ministry to take necessary
 measures in this regard.

5000 killed in Rwandan camp

KIGALI, Apr 23: At least
 5,000 people were killed by
 Rwandan soldiers or trampled
 in stampedes when refugees
 tried to escape a camp in
 southwestern Rwanda, UN of-
 ficials said Sunday, reports AP.
 The UN High Commissioner
 for Refugees said its figures
 showed 5,000, or 6,000 dead
 and thousands more injured in
 the violence Saturday at
 Kibeho camp. UN officials said
 unconfirmed reports put the
 death toll as high as 8,000.
 One of our people on the
 ground inside the camp re-
 ports walking by piles and
 piles and piles of dead bodies,"
 UNHCR spokesman Ray
 Wilkinson said in Nairobi.
 Lt. Kent Page, the UN mili-
 tary spokesman in Kigali, said
 some victims died from gun-
 shots, machete wounds, bayo-
 nets and grenades, others
 were trampled or crushed.
 "Rwandan soldiers have
 been seen burying the victims
 with shovels and hoes," said

Page.
 Radio Rwanda said Sunday
 that "criminals" inside the
 Kibeho camp had provoked
 clashes with security forces.
 It said the investigators killed 35
 people with machetes and also
 attacked the army.
 It cited no fatality figures.
 Roads from the camp were
 reported clogged with tens of
 thousands of people trying to
 flee the site. Most were head-
 ing east on roads that rain has
 turned into virtually impass-
 able quagmires.
 The camps in the area, ini-
 tially set up by French troops
 once housed 250,000 people.
 Most refugees are Hutus who
 fear Tutsi reprisals for the
 slaying of about 500,000
 people — mostly Tutsis — that
 began a year ago.
 The refugees fled last July
 when Tutsi-led rebels over-
 threw the Hutu-dominated
 government.
 The new government began
 closing camps on Tuesday,
 claiming they sheltered mili-
 tias loyal to the former gov-
 ernment.
 Many refugees, afraid to re-
 turn home, have resisted.
 Saturday's shooting began in
 the morning when refugees,
 apparently seeking cover from
 the rain, tried to run through a
 cordon of soldiers surrounding
 the camp.
 "This spooked the soldiers,
 and they started firing into the
 crowd," Wilkinson said.
 UNHCR said soldiers first
 fired on the panicked crowd
 with automatic weapons. Then
 the army apparently started
 receiving small arms fire from
 inside the camp, presumably
 from Hutu militiamen.
 "They (the soldiers) re-
 sponded to that with heavy
 mortars. As the confusion then
 became total chaos and panic,
 a large number of people,
 mostly women and children,
 were trampled to death," said
 Wilkinson.

Khaleda leaves for Islamabad today

Prime Minister Begum
 Khaleda Zia leaves this morn-
 ing for Islamabad on a two-day
 official visit at the invitation of
 her Pakistan counterpart Ben-
 nazir Bhutto, reports UNB.
 The visit is part of a series
 of trips to SAARC capitals the
 Bangladesh Prime Minister has
 been undertaking as the
 SAARC chairperson.

Editorial on Page 4
 Her entourage will include
 Foreign Minister ASM Mosta-
 fizur Rahman. From Islamabad,
 the Foreign Minister will fly to
 Bandung in Indonesia to attend
 a three-day ministerial meet-
 ing of the Coordination Bureau
 of the Non-Aligned Movement,
 beginning there tomorrow.
 After the May 2-4 SAARC
 summit in New Delhi, Mostafiz
 will proceed to New York to
 attend the ongoing world con-
 ference on non-proliferation
 treaty (NPT).

Probe into Dalim's irregularities in Kenya as HC

By Staff Correspondent
 An additional foreign secre-
 tary (AFS) has left for the
 Kenyan capital of Nairobi to
 enquire into the activities of
 the mission, sources said yester-
 day.
 Abdul Momin Chowdhury,
 who was high commissioner to
 Kenya in the early 80s and is
 now an AFS in the Foreign
 Ministry, left Dhaka Saturday
 to enquire into alleged irregu-
 larities by the former high
 commissioner, a Foreign Office
 See Page 12 Col 7

Windies level Test series

REPORT OF SPAIN TRINIDAD
 Apr 23: The West Indies de-
 feated Australia by nine wick-
 ets in the third Test at Queen's
 Park Oval here today, reports
 Reuter.
 The four-test series is now
 poised at 1-1 with the fourth
 Test starting in Kingston, Ja-
 maica on Saturday.
 The Windies won with
 more than two days to spare.
 Scores: Australia 128 and
 105 all out in 36.1 overs (M.
 Taylor 30, S Waugh 21, M.
 Slater 15 and S Warne 11; C.
 Ambrose 4-20, C. Walsh 3-35,
 K. Benjamin 3-32); West Indies
 136 and 98-1 (S. Williams 42,
 R. Richardson 38 not out, B.
 Lara 14 not out).
 See earlier report on Page 10.

**Government of the People's
 Republic of Bangladesh**
 Office of the Chief Boiler Inspector
 (Ministry of Industries)
 75, Naya Paltan, Dhaka-1000
 No. 1975
 Dated: 11-4-95.

Caution Notice

It is hereby notified for information of all concerned that some unscrupulous businessmen are illegally manufacturing so-called boilers secretly with low grade iron sheets and selling the same to various mill owners in different parts of the country including Greater Dhaka, Chittagong, Mymensingh, Dinajpur, Bogra & Rajshahi districts. Producing steams in such boilers is highly risky and hazardous. Any time it may burst leading to loss of life and property. Already bursting of such illegal boilers at quite a few industrial establishments has killed a number of people and caused huge loss to property. The news of these mishaps had been published in different newspapers. Under the circumstance, those who are engaged in manufacturing such illegal boiler and in producing steam in it, are cautioned to refrain from such illegal practice. Otherwise strict punitive action will be taken in accordance with the existing law of the land.

It is further notified for general information that if anyone kindly takes the initiative of informing the names & addresses of those engaged in such illegal boiler manufacture & use, the address of that kind person will be kept secret.

It is also further notified for general information that operation of uncertified unapproved boiler is a punishable offence in the eyes of law. Necessary steps have already been taken so that no gas connection is provided to uncertified & unapproved boiler. Titas Gas Co. & Bakhrabad Gas Co. have already started not to provide gas connection to or disconnect it from uncertified & unapproved boilers.

As per Boiler Operator Rules 1953, operation of boiler by anyone other than a person possessing certificate from "Boiler Operator Test Council," is a punishable offence. Hence it is cautioned not to operate boiler by anyone except a person possessing certificate from the said council. Those among the persons concerned with boiler operation have not yet appeared before the "Boiler Operator Test Council" are instructed to immediately appear before the said council.

Under the circumstance, in the national interest and in the interest of security of life & property concerned with boiler, the general public are cautioned to refrain from unapproved & illegal manufacture of boiler and its operation. Otherwise punitive action will be taken against the establishment & person concerned for the offence of violating the law.

Md. Abdullah
 Chief Boiler Inspector
 DFP-9742-18/4
 Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
 Phone: 402724, 406150,
 G-630